

## Watershed Operations

April 2009

## Reinvesting in Plum Creek Watershed Dam No. 8, Texas

### Introduction

This watershed repair project will ensure that \$71,200 of annual benefits from reducing flood damage and flood protection will continue in a growing urban area south of Austin, Texas.



Site of the Plum Creek Watershed Dam No. 8 in Caldwell County, Texas.

### Project Description

- **Location:** Caldwell County, 25th Congressional District
- **Federal Funding:** \$1,335,000

This project will repair slope slides on the flood control dam. These slides have occurred as a result of periods of heavy rainfall following extended drought. Soils will be removed, treated with lime, and replaced to stabilize the slopes. This repair will ensure the dam is safe, providing benefits for years to come.

### Partners

- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Plum Creek Conservation District
- Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District
- Hays County Soil and Water Conservation District

### Benefits

Ten farms and two bridges will benefit from continued reduction in flood damages and sedimentation. Two miles of streams will continue to be enhanced, sedimentation will be significantly reduced and 22 acres of open water will be maintained.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, this project is part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jump-start the economy, and create jobs. NRCS is using Recovery Act dollars to update aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. NRCS acquires easements and restores floodplains to safeguard lives and property in areas along streams and rivers that have experienced flooding.



Soils have slid down the dam as a result of periods of heavy rainfall following extended drought.

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### Economic Opportunities

The repair of Plum Creek Dam No. 8 will create or save jobs through industries supplying or supporting construction activities and the sale of goods and services. In addition to the jobs created, this program will increase the demand for construction supplies and equipment, adding approximately \$1,200,000 to the local economy.

### Statewide Perspective

Plum Creek Dam No. 8 is one of nearly 2,000 dams constructed in Texas by NRCS and local sponsors. These dams continue to provide nearly \$120 million of benefits annually, protecting downstream properties, infrastructure, and countless lives across the entire state.

### For More Information

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This slope slide on Plum Creek Dam No. 8 will be repaired by removing the soil, treating with lime, and replacing to stabilize the slopes.

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